State of California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency Department of Transportation

Prepared By: Robert L. Buckley Program Manager, Design and Local Programs (916) 654-3858 PROGRAM AMENDMENTS EEM Program/Allocation Amendment Amending Resolution G-99-20 and Resolution FP-99-92

CTC Meeting: November 1-2, 2000

Agenda Item: 2.1e.

Original Signed By W. J. EVANS, Deputy Director

Finance October 20, 2000

ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT & MITIGATION PROGRAM AMENDMENT/PROJECT ALLOCATION AMENDMENT – ACTION

Resolution G-00-___ Amending Resolution G-99-20 and Resolution FP-99-92

RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the following resolution, amending Resolution G-99-20 (Fiscal Year 1999-2000 EEM Program adoption resolution) and Resolution FP-99-92 (project allocation resolution).

Resolved, that the California Transportation Commission revises the 1999-2000 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program as shown below:

PROJECT NO. APPLICANT & PROJECT FY AMOUNT

From:

138 California Department of Parks and 99-00 \$500,000

Recreation

Cambria Coast Ranch Acquisition

Acquisition of approximately 325 acres of scenic watershed for habitats for the endangered species of coastal San Luis

Obispo County.

To:

138 The Nature Conservancy 99-00 \$500,000

Cambria Coast Ranch Acquisition

Acquisition of approximately 325 acres of scenic watershed for habitats for the endangered species of coastal San Luis

Obispo County.

BACKGROUND

The state-funded EEM Program was reauthorized by the Legislature in 1999 as an ongoing program, which allocated \$10 million annually. State, federal, local agencies, and non-profit entities may apply for EEM grant funds to undertake environmental enhancement and mitigation projects that are related to the impacts of new or modified transportation facilities. Projects must be above and beyond the required mitigation for the transportation project and are generally limited to grants of \$250,000.

SUMMARY

This amendment transfers the applicant status of the Cambria Coast Ranch Acqusition project from the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) to a non-profit entity, The Nature Conservancy. The State Parks project was authorized preliminary funding with the adoption of the 1999-2000 EEM Program, Resolution G-99-20, and an allocation of \$500,000 in EEM funds (with \$500,000 in local contributions) at the June 14-15, 2000, CTC meeting, Resolution FP-99-92. The total cost on the project is estimated at \$1,000,000.

The original grant application states that State Parks should undertake all the acquisition work on the project, but the EEM funding would be more efficiently used if the State Parks does not remain involved in the project. The Nature Conservancy was planning to eventually take title to the conservation easement and should be substituted as the applicant. The State Parks and The Nature Conservancy have both agreed to the change in applicant status and The Nature Conservancy will complete the project as scoped and financed in the original EEM Applicant-State Agreement.